

River District Brownfields Program
A Division of the Regional Brownfields Initiative
Updated 12/15/2008

The Regional Brownfields Initiative (RBI) announces the availability of new grants to prospective developers of brownfields sites. Developers interested in applying for grant funding may turn in an application form starting on December 1, 2008. The application due date for is March 13, 2009. Applications will be reviewed during March and funding will be awarded in April 2009.

Grant funds are available to developers interested in entering the NC Brownfields Program and the RBI to redevelop a brownfield site. Developers may receive funds to help pay for Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments. The RBI is accepting applications for sites within the Asheville River District and throughout Buncombe, Henderson, Madison and Transylvania Counties.

The US Environmental Protection Agency awarded four Brownfields Assessment Grants to the City of Asheville and Land-of-Sky Regional Council to address brownfields sites throughout the region. The City of Asheville received \$400,000 to directly assist prospective developers of Brownfields properties in the City's River District. The Land-of-Sky Regional Council received \$400,000 to assist properties within Buncombe, Madison, Henderson and Transylvania Counties.

Brownfields are abandoned, idled or under-used industrial and commercial properties where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination.

The Regional Brownfields Initiative has adopted applicable Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) fair share objectives and goals negotiated with EPA by the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Adopted sites are eligible for grant funding and technical assistance. Please contact Land-of-Sky Regional Council at 828-251-6622 for more information and ask to speak with Kate O'Hara or Holly Bullman. Visit www.landofsky.org/planning/p_brownfields.html for more information about the RBI and to download a Site Application Form. For more information about the City of Asheville's goals and redevelopment strategies, call Stephanie Monson at 828-232-4502. Or visit www.ashevillenc.gov/ed.